

**From:** Topazjudy@aol.com@inetgw  
**To:** Microsoft ATR  
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**Subject:** Microsoft Settlement

Department of Justice

I firmly believe that the suit against Microsoft was unfair. I think Microsoft has been a boon to the Internet and to computer users all over the world. It was responsible for setting a standard that has made communication between users easier. As a rank amateur on the computer, I at least have found that I can find employment and communicate with my friends with reasonable ease. I liken this to being an American from the west who can converse with a DownEaster or a person from the deep south with only occasional confusion as to terminology, as compared to a person from America trying to communicate with a German or Japanese or Sudanese where the language is so different as to be incomprehensible to me.

Furthermore, the federal government, which brought suit against Microsoft, has reached an agreement. As a taxpayer I helped fund that suit (even though I did not wish to). Now some of the states wish to impose a different outcome in the suit, although it has already been settled to my satisfaction, and the plaintiff, using my funds to pursue the action. Microsoft has already paid the price through the federal settlement and through the cost to defend itself. The latter alone was sufficient punishment to address issues perceived only by a handful as being egregious.

Again, I did not think there were grounds for a suit in the beginning. In our society those who put forth the most effort and resources generally succeed the best anyway. This is the way free enterprise should work, and this is what Microsoft has done.

Microsoft has provided a service by making it easier to use technology. I remember years back when there were so many different programs and operating systems that only the few could succeed in going from one to another. Now, with some standardization, but with plenty of options, most of us are comfortable with entering new employment or enjoyment with a minimum of training. The savings in money is inestimable.

Please, stop this nonsense.

A taxpayer:

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